

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAMAKO 04768 291749Z

44

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00 FAA-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00

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R 291700Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2942

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAMAKO 4768

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ML, GE, EAIR

SUBJ: INTERFLUG-THE MALI RUN

1. DURING THE COURSE OF LONG, RAMBLING CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE DURING INAUGURATION OF NEW AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING IN BAMAKO DEC. 29, EAST GERMAN AMBASSADOR ALFRED PEUKERT SAID THAT INTERFLUG'S ONCE WEEKLY FLIGHT TO BAMAKO WAS MONUMENTAL MONEY-LOSER. IT COSTS OVER TWO MILLION MARKS A YEAR TO BRING IN ITS NORMAL WEEKLY LOAD OF 5-6 PASSENGERS. GOM, HE SAID, DID NOT PERMIT INTERFLUG TO SELL TICKETS FOR OUTBOUND TRAVEL, AND FUEL AND SERVICE COSTS WERE VERY HIGH. CHARGE ASKED IF THIS WAS SOME FORM OF FOREIGN AID TO MALI. PEUKERT WAS PUZZLED BY THE QUESTION AND SAID NO.

2. SINCE INTERFLUG ALSO STOPS AT CONAKRY, WE ASSUME BAMAKO STOP IS SOLELY AT BEHEST OF SOVIETS. OTHERWISE IT WOULD SEEM TO BE NEEDLESS WASTE OF FUNDS SINCE THER ARE BETTER WAYS FOR EAST GERMANS TO INCREASE THEIR LIMITED INFLUENCE HERE. CAN INFO ADDRESSEES ADD ANYTHING?
DAWKINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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